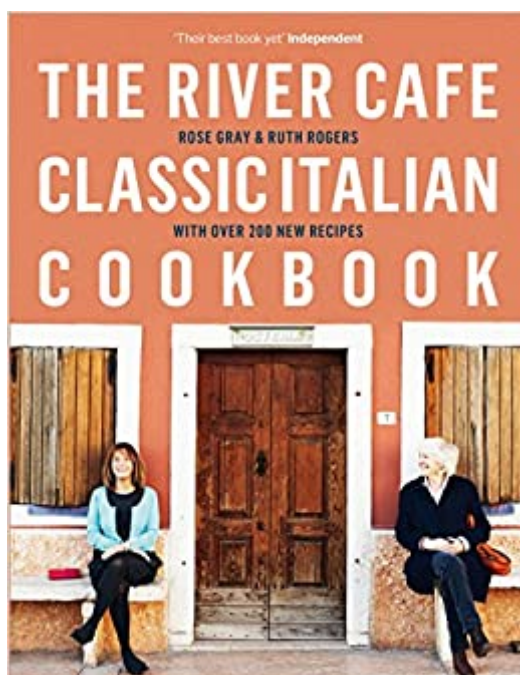


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# The River Cafe Classic Italian Cookbook



## Synopsis

From two of the world's best-known chefs, a beautiful cookbook celebrating the classic Italian food that they love so much.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 416 pages

Publisher: Michael Joseph; UK ed. edition (October 20, 2009)

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #311,110 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Main Courses & Side Dishes > Garnishes #59 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Baking > Pizza #88 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Cooking by Ingredient > Rice & Grains

## Customer Reviews

The result is their best book yet, which, when set against the standard they have set over the last 20 years, is saying something' \* The Guardian \* Another best-seller certainty, with its dreamy photos of cheeses, food markets and Tuscan landscapes \* Telegraph \* This is a book to learn from, to cook from... buy it and love it, because make no mistake, it's the cookery book of the year \* The Spectator \*

Rose Gray MBE and Ruth Rogers MBE launched the River Cafe in 1987 and went on to achieve a worldwide reputation for their cooking. They have written several bestselling River Cafe cookbooks and presented The Italian Kitchen for Channel 4. Rogers has continued to run the restaurant after Gray sadly passed away in 2010, and it still holds the Michelin star that it was first awarded in 1998.

First of all, this is an incredibly beautiful book. The photographs of the food, Italy, the people and the two authors Rose Gray and Ruth Rogers that accompany the recipes are great. I've already cooked a few of the dishes and what you see is what you get. I've got all the River Cafe books and this is the best because it puts you in Italy side by side with the cooks, the vintners, the restaurant owners, the

farmers and cheese-makers. It's amazingly easy to use - the recipes are clear and uncomplicated. If you stay true to Rose and Ruthie's ingredients you can't go wrong.

This was a gift to my sister and her husband. They were both delighted with it.

This book offers a great range of Italian classics, but is a bit more modern in its collection. By that I mean the classics are interspersed with "typical" Italian preparations, mainly Tuscan. It goes beyond the sampling of dishes that a one time traveler may know and gets into the boiled octopus with potatoes, penne con stracotto (penne with beef braised in Chianti), and roast guinea fowl stuffed with lemons. That is to say, it gets into what you might find on the table for lunch on a Sunday afternoon at your Italian mother-in-law's house. Of enthusiastic note, this has a section on gelato (gelato al gianduiotto anyone?) and desserts including strudel, panettone, and ricciarelli the Siennese almond meringue! The photography in the book comes from a wide range of photographers, all of whom are among the best in the business. That may also be why it seems like such a hodgepodge of photography. The lack of a cohesive art direction therefore to me detracts a LOT from an otherwise blemish-free book. This is why I can't give it five stars. For me, aesthetics have a great influence on a cookbook, so I believe the job should either be on the ball or not at all. (It's not a complete disaster, don't get me wrong! It's just mildly annoying. I still love the book and still HIGHLY recommend it!) This book is for someone who wants a solid reference of Italian cooking, home style.

I LOVED THE BOOK, ESPECIALLY THE PHOTOS AND THE PERSONAL DIALOGUE ABOUT THE CHEFS AND RESTAURANTS IN ITALY. THE INGREDIENTS ARE A LITTLE HARD TO GET WHERE I LIVE IN TEXAS, BUT WHEN I AM BACK IN ITALY I WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE SOME OF THE MORE UNUSUAL DISHES. I HAVE MADE THE CROSTINI, REALLY GOOD, AND THE POLENTA.

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